

Applicants: Edlis, Ofir et al.
Serial No.: 09/778,818

Attorney Docket No.: P-3309-US
Assignee: Intel Corporation

REMARKS

Applicants have carefully studied the Office Action. This paper is intended to be fully responsive to all points of rejection and objection raised by the Examiner and is believed to place the application in condition for allowance. Favorable reconsideration and allowance of the application are respectfully requested.

Status of the Claims

Claims 1-8 and 10-19 are pending in this application. Claim 9 has been cancelled, without prejudice. Claims 1-8 and 10-19 have been amended.

Voluntary Amendment of Claims

Applicants have amended claims 1-8 and 10-19 to clarify what the Applicants regard as the invention. No new matter has been added by this Amendment.

Applicants respectfully submit that this Amendment is not intended to limit the scope of the claimed invention and does not warrant a new search by the Examiner, as the Amendment is directed mainly to rearrangement and rephrasing of previously-claimed elements and features.

Applicants would like to point out that for reasons of clarity and readability, some of the amendments to the claims, in particular, the amendments to independent claims 1, 10 and 15, are presented by a deletion of the entire body of the previous claim language and an insertion of the entire amended language, rather than by sequentially deleting and inserting individual changes in the claim language.

Claims 2-8 have been amended to cure grammatical errors and for reasons of consistency with independent claim 1 from which claims 2-8 depend.

Claims 11-14 have been amended to cure grammatical errors and for reasons of consistency with independent claim 10 from which claims 11-14 depend.

Claims 16-19 have been amended to cure grammatical errors and for reasons of consistency with independent claim 15 from which claims 16-19 depend.

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Claim 9 has been cancelled, without prejudice. Applicants would like to point out that language corresponding to previous claim 9 has been roughly incorporated into amended independent claim 1.

Claim Rejections under 35 USC 102(e)

The Examiner rejected claims 1-19 under 35 USC 102(e) as being anticipated by Butler et al., United States Patent Number 6,584,313 ("Butler").

Specifically, the Examiner contended that Butler describes a searcher used to detect spread spectrum signals for processing CDMA signals, activating a Radio Frequency (RF) receiver in a wireless communication device, receiving RF signals, converting to baseband, de-activating the RF receiver after receiving the signal, and background processing using only the digital circuitry to conserve power. The Examiner further contended that Butler describes storing the received signal in memory, demodulating the received signal to determine if a quick page has been received, and then activating the RF receiver.

As is well established, in order for a claim to be anticipated by the prior art, each and every element and feature of the claim must be included in a single prior art document.

Amended independent method claim 1 recites, inter alia, "performing processing operations at a first clock rate during at least part of a first time period in which signals are received and stored by a Radio Frequency receiver", and "performing background processing operations at a second, faster clock rate during a second time period in which said Radio Frequency receiver is de-activated". Amended independent claims 10 and 15, drawn to a receiver and a communication system, respectively, recite language roughly corresponding to the above cited features of claim 1.

Applicants respectfully assert that Butler does not disclose at least performing processing operations at a first clock rate and performing background processing operations at a second, faster clock rate, as required by amended independent claims 1, 10 and 15. Furthermore, Butler does not teach, at least, using a second, faster clock rate for background processing. Specifically, Butler does not teach using a first clock rate for processing during a time period in which a RF module is active, and using a second clock

rate for background processing during a time period in which the RF module is non-active. Further, to the extent that the Examiner might hold the position that Butler describes the use of more than one clock rate (e.g., an “arbitrary” clock rate as discussed below), a position to which Applicants disagree, Butler certainly does not disclose using a faster clock rate for background processing when the RF module is non-active than the processing clock rate used during reception of a signal.

In response to the position taken by the Examiner in the Office Action with regard to previous claim 9, the only language in Butler which relates to what may be construed as a clock rate is “Processing after the sample RAM may happen at arbitrary clock frequencies, such as 19 MHz unrelated to the original chip rate” (Butler, column 5, lines 60-62). Applicants respectfully submit that Butler, which incidentally mentions an “arbitrary” clock rate, does not teach or fairly suggest first and second processor clock rates associated with an active or non-active mode of a RF module, respectively, as recited in amended independent claims 1, 10 and 15. Furthermore, Butler does not teach that the “arbitrary” clock rate is faster compared to another clock rate that may be used for other processing.

Still further, it is not clear from the above language of Butler what exactly was meant by the phrases “clock frequency” and “original chip rate”, which allegedly refer to unrelated parameters. If both terms were intended by Butler to relate to processing clock rates, then Applicants fail to understand why they are referred to by two different names. Also, it is not clear what is meant by “unrelated”; for example, one could speculate that Butler refers to rates, clocks or frequencies that are independently generated, e.g., by different circuits, rather than to different values of the same parameter. Therefore, Applicants submit that any inference as to a certain quantifiable relation between the “original chip rate” and the “arbitrary clock frequency”, let alone an inference that the latter is faster than the former, would be purely speculative and could not be used as a basis for rejecting the claims of the present application.

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In view of the above, Applicants respectfully submit that Butler does not anticipate amended independent claims 1, 10 and 15. Therefore, Applicants respectfully submit that amended claims 1, 10 and 15 meet the novelty requirements of 35 USC 102.

Applicants further submit that the above-mentioned features of claims 1, 10 and 15 would not have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art. For example, operating a processor at a faster clock rate may result in an increased power consumption. In contrast, Butler includes numerous phrases stating that the device and method of Butler are intended to decrease power consumption; for example, Butler describes that "In general, it is desirable to reduce the power consumption of a subscriber unit to reduce the battery size and weight. ... It is to this end, as well as other objectives, that the present invention is directed." (Butler, column 1, lines 40-45).

In view of the above, Applicants respectfully submit that amended independent claims 1, 10 and 15 are patentable over Butler and/or any other prior art references on record, and any combinations of those references. Therefore, Applicants respectfully submit that amended independent claims 1, 10 and 15 meet the patentability requirements of 35 USC 103.

Claims 2-8, claims 11-14, and claims 16-19, are dependent from amended independent claims 1, 10 and 15, respectively, and include all the features of the independent claims as well as additional distinguishing features. Therefore, it is respectfully submitted that the novelty and patentability of dependent claims 2-8, claims 11-14, and claims 16-19, follow directly from the novelty and patentability of amended independent claims 1, 10 and 15, respectively.

In view of the above, Applicants respectfully request that the rejection of claims 1-8 and 10-19 under 35 USC 102(e) be withdrawn.

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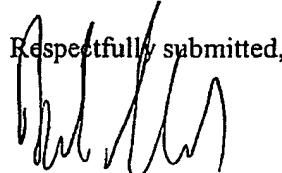
Attorney Docket No.: P-3309-US
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Conclusion

In view of the foregoing amendment and remarks, Applicants respectfully submit that claims 1-8 and 10-19 are deemed to be allowable. Their favorable reconsideration and allowance are respectfully requested.

Should the Examiner have any question or comment as to the form, content or entry of this paper, the Examiner is requested to contact the undersigned at the telephone number below. Similarly, if there are any further issues yet to be resolved to advance the prosecution of this application to issue, the Examiner is requested to telephone the undersigned counsel.

No fees are believed to be due. However, if any fees are due, please charge any such fees to deposit account No. 05-0649.

Respectfully submitted,


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